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Monday, January 17, 2000 Number 1923



SETTLING IN: Haliburton Hospital patient Eleanor Austin enjoys a bite of lunch, after being moved into the new long term care wing of the facility. The patients were moved Friday, marking the end first phase of the construction process in Haliburton. Staff members, including Chris Reid and Kathy Anderson, above, spent the latter part of the week moving boxes and equipment, sorting and arranging everything in the new wing, while the old section of the hospital prepared for its renovations. Austin said the move was very well organized and efficient and that staff was very professional. Several offices have moved into the new wing, including the Haliburton Health Services, Foundation office, Diabetes Education Network and Supportive Housing. Once the renovations have been completed the patients will be moved back to the hospital. For the moment, the emergency department remains in the same location at the north end of the old hospital building.

First phase completed at Haliburton Hospital

Patients moved to new section



Winter tourism on ice

Not many options for outdoor activities

While some people may be enjoying the fact there is little snow so far this winter, the missing ingredient is taking the fun out of the season for many others.

Without snow, most winter activities and attractions in the county have come to a halt. From extremely limited snowmobiling opportunities to lack of cross country ski trails and no material to build a ice racing track, winter is offering few recreational opportunities this year. The impact is being felt throughout the area's economy.

Snow arrived over the Highlands at Christmas, in time to ensure the holidays had enough material to cover the ground and encourage winter recreation, however, it has been downhill ever since. Rain, mild temperatures earlier this month and the lack of new snow has left most of the southern portion of the Highlands without the key winter ingredient.

"I am reminded of the Calvin and Hobbes cartoon," Peter Rigby, manager of the Haliburton Highlands Chamber of Commerce said. "Calvin is shown standing at the top of a hill, ready to pounce on his sleigh as he watches a single snow flake float down from the sky."

Rigby likened the situation in the

cartoon to what is being experienced here. He said the situation is not isolated to central Ontario. The Chamber has been receiving enquiries from snowmobilers in Michigan and Central Ontario who are looking for places to do some trail riding.

Rigby said there is some snow in the northern areas of the county, but that conditions are limited.

Peter Schleifenbaum, of the Haliburton Forest and Wildlife, reported that all the trails are open in his facility, but he is advising riders that these are not in "prime condition". He said that when rain fell on the southern portion of the county, Haliburton Forest and Wildlife received snow. "All of our trails are basically open, but we don't have a lot of snow to work with," Schleifenbaum said.

Haliburton County Snowmobile Association president Steve Berry, described conditions as "devastating" for area businesses because of the lack of snow. He reported that the association, which maintains some 760 kilometres of trails in the Highlands, groomed some trails when the snow arrived around Christmas. "...then the rain came and washed out everything that we had done." They haven't sent out the groomers since then.

Berry said the groomers had not been sent back out on the trails because there is no snow on the ground to groom. He said many of the area lakes have frozen over with the cold weather of last week and the club will be staking trails on the lakes. However, he noted the lakes have little or no snow cover. He advises anyone planning to snowmobile on lakes to check conditions before heading out.

The same lack of snow has left cross-country skiers with limited opportunities throughout the lower portion of the county. The Haliburton Nordic Trails members are waiting for a snowfall so the groomers can have material to work with. The same is true at the Frost Centre just south of Dorset. A spokesman for the centre reported on Saturday that trails have been closed since the rain fell, followed by the deep freeze. Any snow that was on the ground in the area is locked in ice.

The ice car racing track in Minden is also suffering, although track manager Tom Prentice has been taking advantage of the cold weather to lay down layers of ice. "We have been flooding since it turned cold," Prentice said. "But without the snow we can't build the banks to help contain the

water."

In addition to holding the water, the banks are needed to keep the cars from sliding off the track. According to Prentice, the regulations require snow banks at least three metres wide and one metre high. In spectator areas there must be double snow banks. Without the snow to build the banks it is impossible to begin the racing. Prentice said a snowfall of eight inches to one foot would provide enough material to start banking the track.

This is the twenty-fifth season for the ice racers and the schedule was to include seven weekends of racing. Prentice is not too concerned at this point even though racing was to have started this past weekend. "There were a number of extra weekends built into the schedule in anticipation of poor weather," Prentice said. "If we start racing by January 29 we should be able to get the complete season in."

Ironically, even though the Minden Sled Dog Derby was not to be held this year, if it had been on the schedule, organizers would have had to postpone the event. Slated for this past weekend, there was not enough snow in the bush to create the trail that would have been

(more on page 3)



BRICKS AND MORTAR HELP: Masons from throughout Haliburton and Victoria counties have made a major contribution to the Haliburton Highlands Health Services building fund. District Deputy Grand Master Harry Hobden, left, and Past District Deputy Grand Master Floyd Hall, right, presented the cheque for \$7760 to HHHS Foundation chairman and fellow Mason, Gord Monk, at a recent meeting.

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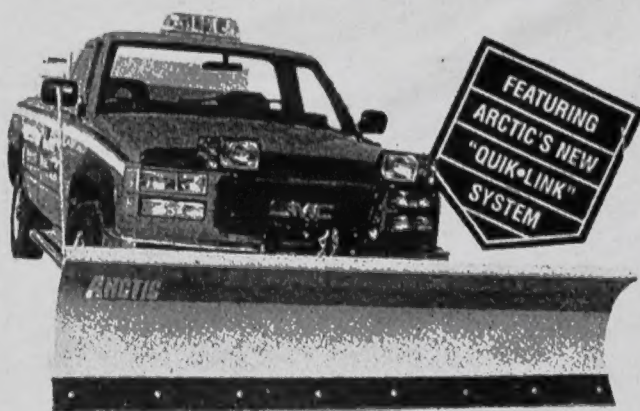
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While others wait**Skiers and anglers busy***(from page one)*

required to host the races. "Even if we had a sponsor, we wouldn't have been able to hold a race this weekend," Loughheed said.

With the lack of winter activities, accommodation and restaurants in the area are being affected. Most resorts report cancellations as those seeking winter activities learn that the area is still without a significant amount of snow. Steve Berry of the HCSA said that without the estimated 8000 to 10,000 snowmobiles coming into the county each weekend, those businesses which cater to their needs, gas stations, restaurants, accommodations and service centres, are feeling the impact.

The only winter recreations that have experienced a traditional season are downhill skiing and ice fishing. The cold weather has been ideal for the snow-making equipment at Sir Sam's

Ski Area at Eagle Lake. The hills and lifts have been busy with those who enjoy the sport.

The frigid nights have also thickened the ice to the point where huts have been moved out and fishing has begun. Kim Creamer at Red Umbrella Inn reported that ice fishing huts were put out on Twelve Mile Lake January 7. "They are catching fish too," Creamer said. The lack of snow has helped with the depth of ice covering the lakes and made it easier for anglers to get to and from the huts.

While these two recreational activities are available, they are not enough to make up for the impact of what has happened so far, a winter without snow.

So, across the county, there are many people who, like the cartoon character mentioned earlier, are scanning the sky for any signs of snow.

Police looking for pair from Beaver Creek

The Prison Liaison Detail of the Muskoka Crime Unit is currently investigating the disappearance of two inmates from the minimum security Beaver Creek Institute in Gravenhurst.

On January 10, at approximately 8 p.m., two inmates were discovered missing during one of the scheduled population counts and police were called. It is believed that the inmates left the institution together.

Kenneth Baker, 25, is described as male, white, 5'9", 162 pounds, brown short hair, and brown eyes. There is no clothing description available. His destination is unknown. Baker was serving a three-year sentence for robbery. He had arrived at the Beaver



Kenneth Baker

James Mason



Creek facility on November 24, from the Warkworth institute.

James P. Mason, also 25, is described as male, white, 5'10", 151 pounds, long brown hair, in a ponytail, brown eyes, and a Fu Manchu style beard and mustache. His destination is also unknown. Mason was serving a six year, six month sentence for robbery, dangerous operation of a motor vehicle, and possession of stolen property. He arrived at Beaver Creek on January 7, also from the Warkworth facility.

Police are requesting that should you come into contact with either individual, do not approach them. Contact your local police agency or Crime Stoppers (1-800-461-8477) immediately.



Dennis Casey, of the Lake Kashagawigamog Tourist Association, with Art Ward handed Carole Finn, of the Friends of Sir Sandford Fleming College Foundation, a cheque for \$1000. Also on hand was Barb Bolin, Haliburton campus leader. The money will go towards a bursary for students in the eco-tourism and adventure tourism program at the college. The Lake Kashagawigamog Tourist Association is organized by tourist business owners on the lake, to represent their views.

Foundation on target

Dale Walker, managing director of the Haliburton Highlands Health Services Foundation and the foundation's chair Gord Monk attended the Stanhope council meeting on January 12.

Walker and Monk outlined some of the foundation's fund-raising plans.

"It's an ambitious campaign, but we're ambitious people," Walker said. "We have some great volunteers."

Walker gave council members a statement outlining the income and expenses to date. The amount of donations has steadily increased since the fund-raising began in 1997. To date, \$2,369,017 has been transferred to the Haliburton Highlands Health Services Board as of the end of December 1999.

In addition, pledges from corporations, businesses and individuals amount to \$613,361.

Including pledges, some of which will be paid over a period of three to five years, the local share of nearly \$6-million is about half way to being realized.

Monk told council that memorial donations "have been more than generous." The response has been very gratifying," he said.

He said that area artist David Risk donated a painting and the foundation will be selling prints.

Walker and Monk asked for council's "verbal" support. "You represent the will of the people," Monk said. He also said the foundation would be very

appreciative of any financial assistance the municipality could provide as well.

It was pointed out that donations to the foundation are tax deductible. The foundation plans to install donor boards at both facilities when they are complete, recognizing contributions of \$1,000 or more.

Monk pointed out that "planned giving" will be a very important source of funding in the future. It was noted that once the capital costs are paid, on-going funding will be needed for education and equipment.

Monk noted that the foundation is actively seeking contributions from the corporate sector. The local banks have been approached and nearly \$90,000 has been pledged, with one bank still to reply. Local insurance companies have also pledged their support, to the tune of nearly \$30,000.

The foundation will be expanding its focus to include the northern portions of Victoria and Peterborough counties. Monk noted that there are about 5,000 permanent residents of Laxton, Digby and Longford, Bexley, Somerville and Galway townships.

"They use the Minden Hospital," he said.

Work at both the Minden and Haliburton hospitals is on schedule. The Haliburton facility is about 83 per cent complete and construction at the Minden site is at about 65 per cent, based on the amount of money spent.

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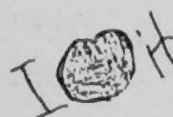
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Commissioner hears from northern reps

A significant cost savings and a community of interest was the main focus of the presentation made by the Townships of Bexley, Laxton, Digby and Longford and Somerville, to Provincial Commissioner Harry Kitchen. The three councils and the restructuring committee met with Kitchen to discuss the options of one and two tier government, in the hopes that they could convince him that a local solution to restructuring was the appropriate choice.

The commissioner met with the councils of Victoria County in Fenelon Falls on January 10, to discuss what options the municipalities would like to see implemented. The Commissioner will be releasing a report to the public in early February. "This report will include at least two options," said Kitchen, who explained that the options will include both a one tier and some form of two tier options for Victoria County. The report will be available to the public, through all municipal offices and branches of the Victoria County Public Library. Two public meetings will be held around February 14, in Lindsay and another undetermined location, to hear public submissions.

As well, letters and e-mail can be sent to the commissioner. After that, a final report will be handed down. "The province has asked me to make a decision. When the decision is made, it is not up for debate," said Kitchen, who also stated that he felt that this process was a rather "daunting task". Harry Kitchen is a Trent University Economics professor, who has written extensively on municipal affairs, and has consulted several municipalities on restructuring.

Kitchen noted that in his discus-

sions with other townships, many councillors were in favour of a two tier option, however there was little consensus on how this should be designed. No number of townships could be agreed on. As well, there was dissent about what services should be dealt with at what level.

An overview of the restructuring committee's report was discussed by the chair of the group, Gary LaPlante, which included plans for the makeup of the new council, changes to boundaries for the ward system and other operational information. According to the report, the accounting firm that represents all three of the municipalities found that significant savings could be made under this form of amalgamation. Potentially there could be \$222,000 in savings from administration, \$618,000 in savings from public works, \$33,000 in savings from council and \$110,000 from a joint fire department, that would include the hiring of a full-time professional fire chief. Kitchen was very interested in this information and requested that the committee send him additional information on how these figures were derived.

Somerville Reeve Dianne Austin reported on the recent set of public meetings held in the concerned municipalities, and the public support behind the

work of the restructuring committee. "We have worked very hard on this as we feel that this is the best solution for our three municipalities. I would like to suggest that we be allowed to continue," said Austin. Harry Kitchen

asked if the creation of the committee was precipitated by his appointment, and Austin replied that discussion over shared services had been taking place for some time between the townships.

Bexley Reeve Fred Brecht told Kitchen that he felt that most of the ground work had already been laid out at the county council table for the service structure, and that perhaps the process should work from there. Brecht focused his arguments on the shared community of interest and common facilities, within the municipalities, suggesting they created a logical choice for restructuring. "I believe that this kind of philosophy could be applied right across the county," said Brecht.

Commissioner Kitchen asked why the townships of Carden and Dalton had not been part of the discussion, as those municipalities have entered into their own agreement. Brecht replied

that there was no community of interest or association between those townships, so there would be little cohesiveness in that approach. He hoped that geography, existing townships and demographics would play a part in the final decision.

It was also asked that the age of residents be considered. Brecht felt that as the people get older, they will be much less comfortable driving long distances to visit their municipal offices. To this, Kitchen replied that he saw some sort of satellite office system or access points, even in a one tier option.

Although not a member of the committee, Somerville Councillor John Byrne made a presentation on his concerns about restructuring on a larger scale. He felt that if, in a one tier system, administration was handled in a central location, the loss of staff on a large scale in the townships would have a detrimental effect on the local economy. As well it may result in the loss of population, as staff, mostly women, move away in search of employment. "There aren't any jobs for these people, not even minimum wage jobs," said Byrne.

At the end of the presentations, Harry Kitchen thanked the group for its participation and its enthusiasm, but did not fail to point out that in this process, there will only one decision made. He noted that there was a strong interest by the municipalities for a two tier system. "The reality of this, is that at the end of the day, I will be very unpopular," said Kitchen.



Amalgamation committee members include, from the left, Dianne Austin, Jim Hopkins, Jack McDonald, Chair Gary LaPlante, Fred Brecht, Peter White. Also on the committee are Warren Riley and John Macklem.

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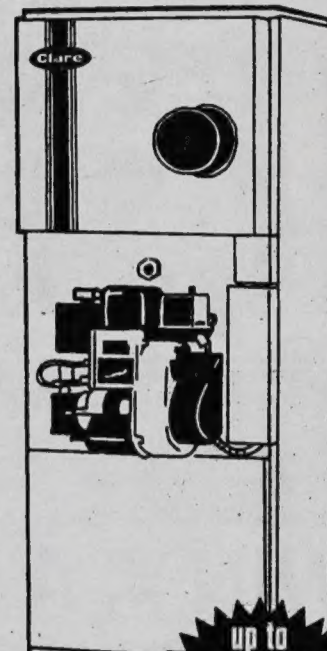
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It's curtains for the awning

Paul Reng, owner of Minden Book and Stationery, has been instructed by Anson, Hindon and Minden council to remove the awning from the side of the building next to the Village Green.

Reng attended the AH&M council meeting Thursday to explain why he installed the awning on the side of the building. He told council that when he moved from the location a few doors from his current store, he had to remove the awning from the former location. The storefront at the new location won't allow for the installation of the awning and he installed it on the side of the building as a temporary measure.

"I hope to be able to sell it to whoever rents the old location," he told council.

He added that he had no suitable location to store the awning until such time as he is able to find a buyer. He also noted that if he had left the awning where it was, he would not be able to retain ownership.

Reeve Jeanne Anthon explained to Reng that the reason for council's concern is the issue of liability. Since the awning overhangs municipal property, the municipality would be held responsible in the event of someone being injured as a result of contact with the awning. It was pointed out that overhanging signs and awnings on the main street are covered by the municipality's liability insurance policy. Overhanging fixtures anywhere other than fronting on Main Street would not be included in the policy's coverage.

Anthon also pointed out that plans

for the Village Green are in the process of being drafted and that it has been suggested that the side of the building to which the awning is now attached be used for a mural.

Reng said he had no intention of leaving the awning on the side of the building as a permanent fixture, but merely took advantage of a convenient place to store it until someone else rents the location of his former store.

Council agreed to give Reng a week to find another location to store the awning.

Truck rolls

Two Dysart men were injured January 10, after their truck rolled on County Road 121, near Howland Junction Road, north of Kinmount.

The truck, a Ford Ranger, was northbound on County Road 121, when it crested a hill, the driver lost control and the vehicle swerved into the west ditch, where it struck a rock cut and rolled.

The driver, Jason Henry, 19 and passenger, Chris Moynes, 18, both of Dysart Township, were transported to Minden Hospital by ambulance with non-life threatening injuries. Henry was released from hospital and driven to Peterborough Regional Health Centre for x-rays. Moynes was transported to Peterborough Regional Health Centre by ambulance for a CAT scan.

It is unknown at this time if any charges are to be laid.

An evening for sled dog derby supporters

Even though there won't be a race this year, the organizing committee is trying to keep the spirit of the Minden Sled Dog Derby alive.

"We thought it was important to mark this occasion even though the community is not alive with dogs and visitors," Race Governor Val Loughheed said.

To do so, the committee has organized a dance, the "Mushers Ball", for this Saturday evening, January 22, at the Minden Community Centre. "It is an opportunity for anyone who has been involved in the race over its 15 year history to continue the annual tradition," Loughheed said. "We are hoping volunteers, anyone who helped in any way, including ardent supporters of the event, will be on hand and that we can make a real party out of the night."

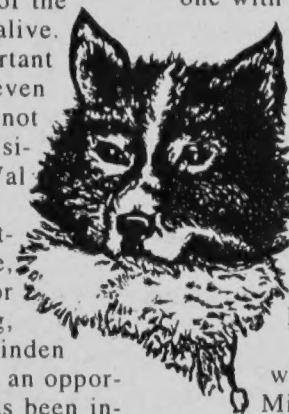
The evening will feature music by The Dogs, a band which includes some members who helped write and record the derby's theme song 'Catch The Drift'. There will be a buffet later in the evening and lots of opportunities to meet other members of the sled dog derby team and to share memories of past races.

The committee is also selling off all souvenirs at two for the price of one with all the proceeds going to the Haliburton Highlands Health Services Foundation. Full colour posters from the various years will be available free of charge to anyone in attendance. The committee also plans to have an auction of the race bibs used during the derby with the proceeds again going to the Health Services Foundation.

Admission to the evening, which starts at 8 p.m. at the Minden Community Centre, is just \$5 with the proceeds from the door going to the Minden Food Bank.

"We are looking forward to making this a casual, fun evening in which people will come out to visit, dance and remember the good times associated with the sled dog derby. It is the committee's way of saying thank you to everyone who has helped over the years," Loughheed said.

She noted that the committee is continuing its search for a sponsor for the event and is looking forward to bringing the sled dog derby back to the community's main street next January.



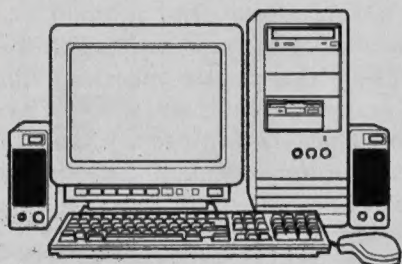
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Editorial

Compare and contrast

It is interesting to observe the different processes taking place on either side of the line which separates Haliburton from Victoria County.

The politicians on the north side have moved ahead with a homemade restructuring plan that will see the present ten municipalities consolidated into four. The plan has been endorsed by all the existing municipalities and apparently enjoys the blessing of the provincial government. (One would presume that if Queen's Park did not like what was transpiring here in the Highlands it would have said something by now. But then such presumptions have been known to be well, somewhat presumptuous, and perhaps premature, especially when an official endorsement has yet to be received.) Assum-

ing that the province is on side with the county's direction, then the suggestion made last year that a locally crafted solution was better than one imposed from afar would appear to be true.

In contrast, our Victoria County counterparts are scrambling to not only sell their own solutions to their constituents, but also convince the commissioner, who has been appointed to impose a restructuring solution on the county, that they are far enough into the process that he should follow their lead. Privately the politicians believe that the future of their government structure is now effectively out of their hands, no matter how persuasive their own arguments, and that the commis-

sioner will use his own set of criteria and reshape Victoria County.

Unfortunately this is more than just an academic exercise. As interesting as it is to compare the two, one group, those to the south, will likely not get what it perceives is best for its own citizens or the area as a whole. The politicians to the north showed foresight in taking action early, even though there are those who would suggest the Haliburton County municipalities had to be dragged kicking and screaming into this process. Certainly, if the situation being experienced in Victoria County is any indication, the Haliburton County politicians made the right move at the right time

jb

Looking for peace and quiet

Editor:

I am responding to the letter of Larry Hewitt, President of the Haliburton Highlands Outdoors Association, (January 11).

Does he really think that cottagers on Peach Lake are simply a special interest group that is becoming interested or concerned because we feel something might change near our back yard? Guess what, Larry....we are concerned when you and your 350 member special interest group wants to come onto our lake and fish it out. That is what is happening now.

Just because you and your organization stock the lake without anyone's knowledge, (meaning the cottagers/taxpayers of Kabakwa/Peach Lake), and then want to make access even easier, then you are right. The Township of Stanhope should know better.

We were never asked or involved in any of these decisions and we don't like it. And to say your group has a "special" interest in the ecology, protecting and enhancing the fish and wildlife of the Haliburton area is so much hogwash. You put fish into the lake and you take them back out as a "sport". In your own words, Kabakwa is a put-grow and take lake. You put - then you take.

Where is this helping the fish or the ecology? Take your bent intentions some place else and leave our lake as it is....a peaceful place to go.

As a cottager, I bought my cottage on this small lake to get away from it all and I pay enough taxes for which I

get nothing in return. This gives me and all other cottagers the right to protest without being referred to as backyard whiners.

Maurice Woods,
Scarborough and Peach/Kabakwa Lake in the summer.

Too late to close the barn door

Editor:

Saturday, January 8, 2000, will not be easily forgotten for about 150 residents of Bexley, Somerville and Laxton, Digby and Longford.

The three municipalities are attempting to "close the barn door" even though the horse is out! The "horse" being the Provincial Commissioner appointed to restructure Victoria County and the "barn door", attempting to amalgamate the three Townships into one. Apparently the Commissioner had already told them they must convince him that a two tier government is better to run the County than a single tier.

The committee seems to be divided on the issue as to whether it is wasting time and just going through the motions. Some believed, as stated by the

Chairman, we must have a paper trail if we are going to fight the commissioner's decision. I can only assume he means a long costly legal battle at the taxpayers expense.

It took, between the County and Somerville Township, about \$20,000 apiece to decide who would pick up garbage and I can only guess such a legal battle with the province would be in the hundreds of thousands if it ever got that far.

Somerville residents Fred Jenkinson and Rose Anne Kulmala were the only people who seemed to grasp the situation as being a very dictatorial manner in which the commissioner can operate.

Apparently the public meetings the commissioner will hold only allow written and oral presentations, with no questions to the commission, but he can ask

(more on page 8)

The Times

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Thank you Stanhope firemen

Editor:

On behalf of the Bergshoeff family we would like to give a sincere thanks to the Stanhope Fire Department for their unbelievable response to the fire December 27 that destroyed our beloved cottage. Although we lost many of our belongings and four generations of memoirs, no lives were lost.

The fire department showed the utmost respect to us during our hard

times. The blaze was fierce, but the brave firemen took control and handled it courageously.

We would also like to thank our kind cottage neighbours Bruce and Betty Moffatt, Alan Cowen and Janet Small, Marg and Wayne Rouse, Dorothy and Spencer Beaver, Frankie and Shelley Chambers, and all of the others for their sincere acts of kindness and assistance during this time. They have been a blessing for us,

especially since we were left with no winter coats and boots for the children. The warmth and shelter helped until we could get back home.

Although my mother-in-law, Ruth Bergshoeff was not at the cottage at the time, we know that she would be proud of her "cottage friends and neighbours".

David, Kelly, Carly and Shannon
Bergshoeff,
Beech Lake.

Upset over setback

Editor:

Anson, Hindon and Minden is the municipality to build a new cottage or waterfront home. I am aware of a minor variance process to build a new cottage with a 20 foot setback from the high water mark on Kashagawigamog Lake. They may get their permit on January 18, after a public hearing.

In 1974, the health department established 66 foot setbacks. In 1998, 100 foot setbacks were established by the municipality to help preserve the quality of our lakes.

My neighbours and I surveyed the Lake Trout spawning beds on Kashagawigamog Lake for the MNR a couple of years ago. We observed and

counted fish on some of the spawning beds and a couple of the old historic beds had no fish on them and are now gone forever.

These Lake Trout did not disappear because they were over fished, but due to the poor water quality of our lake.

Recent surveys in the 1990's tell us that Haliburton area lakes are on the road to recovery from the 1970's and 80's.

Building and septic setbacks were established by the experts for a reason. I don't think there's any room for one mistake in preserving our lake.

Ted Vasey
Kashagawigamog Lake

The rules

The Times welcomes signed letters to the editor on subjects of interest to our readers. Short letters are most likely to be chosen for publication, but the use of any material is at the discretion of the editor. The editor reserves the right to edit letters to meet space requirements, for clarity or to avoid obscenity, libel or invasion of privacy. Upon request, names may be withheld, but only very rarely and for compelling reasons. Letters published do not necessarily reflect the editorial policies or beliefs of this newspaper. All letters must bear the handwritten signature of the writer and include the address and phone number for verification purposes.

The blue screen of death

There's a guy in my town named Herc.

He is shortish but extremely muscular - think human fire hydrant. The word on Herc is: don't mess with him. Oh, he's friendly and gregarious enough, most times -- but he's also as tough as a platoon of Ninjas, and if you incur his wrath, your allotted span on this planet can be measured in nanoseconds.

Which is why it was unusual to see Herc lined up at the local Libation Emporium one day, grinning like a man who'd won the Lotto 649.

"You're looking mighty chipper today Herc" said the checkout clerk, "What's up?" Herc smiled a smile as wide as the federal deficit and said:

"Just walked down to the end of the bleepin' dock" (Herc swears a mite) "with my bleepin' computer - an' I hove that bleeper as far as I could into the harbour".

"And it felt so bleepin' good that I went back home, got my printer and I hove that motherbleeper in after it!"

I know exactly how Herc feels. I love my computer when it's doing what I want it to do. Which would be about 1.3% of the time.

The rest of the time I hate my computer. I hate it more than Eatons hated Simpsons.

More than Alberta hated Trudeau.
More than Tyson hated Holyfield.

If I could find an ear on my computer I would gnaw it off.

But I can't. I can't find much of anything on my computer - that's the point. I could probably live with my handicap if only my computer wasn't so bleeping smug.

I'll be working away on it when suddenly my monitor screen will go into a kind of graphic stomach cramp and a message will flare across the screen.

THIS PROGRAM HAS PERFORMED AN ILLEGAL FUNCTION AND WILL BE SHUT DOWN.

What????

What illegal function? I paid for this computer! I'm over 21!

Another favourite computer moment occurs when I painstakingly type in some incredibly stupid Internet address --

(<http://LiZard~xanadu/medusa/@#&phrymzik.com>) - the computer clicks and whirrs - and this message pops up on my screen:

COULD NOT CONNECT TO "[1.135.245.49]".

CAUSE: CONNECTION TIMED OUT (10060)

Gee, thanks, Bill Gates - I can sure work with clear and concise info like that.

No point in appealing to your friendly neighbourhood computer geek - they understand this gobbledygook!

It makes sense to them! Nope, folks - we're on our own.

Well...maybe not quite.

I hear that the honchos at Sony Vaio Programming in Tokyo have replaced the stupid and meaningless Microsoft error messages with...haiku poetry. Which my dictionary defines as: a very short Japanese style of poetry, consisting of three lines.

And how does that apply to computer error messages? Try these:

*A file that big?
It might be very useful
But now it is gone.*

*First snow, then silence.
This thousand dollar screen
Dies so beautifully.*

*A crash reduces
Your expensive computer
To a simple stone.*

And my personal favourite:
*Windows NT crashed.
I am the blue screen of death.
No one hears your screams.*

Computer programming with a sense of literature AND a sense of humour?
What next?
Mackintosh?

Etcetera

Arthur Black

One-sided

(from page 7)

you a question for clarification. A rather one-sided method of public meeting when we are paying the bill.

The committee was attempting to make its case of not having a real dollars and cents saving calculation due to the lack of time as the commissioner was only appointed the latter part of December. Unfortunately, for the past two years, many County Councillors have been attempting to have some form of amalgamation put forward only to be "stomped on" by fellow members not wanting to make changes.

Reeve Fred Brecht also stated that the Somerville, Bexley, LDL Committee had met in 1998, which makes one believe there was really no excuse for not having financial information ready for the commissioner on Monday January, 10, 2000. They are sending out a letter to each taxpayer in the three Townships asking them to fax the commissioner Mr. Harry Kitchen with their preference for either a one or two tier government.

Jim Gaitens, the president of the Somerville Ratepayers' Association, stated he would have a difficult time in advising his members which way to vote as he had not really seen any figures as to what the one tier level of government would save as against a two tier. He stated most of his members were cottagers who receive little or no services and are interested in what one tier level would provide.

Somerville residents also stated the level of road maintenance they receive is much better than the other two municipalities and they have a concern as to whether their service would be less.

At all three meetings the same answers came back: it would be the transitional council that would have to make those decisions. It would appear that the committee was attempting to make a case on Monday, January 10 with the commissioner without a very good presentation of savings to the

taxpayer.

Personally I do not believe any form of amalgamation will save any great amount of money immediately and probably cost more initially. However, down the road a few years we will save and, also the most important issue, keep the services we now have and some of us will receive more for our tax dollars. Initially some could receive less than your neighbours and friends, but as proven in Simcoe County, the service level does catch up.

The three municipalities joining as one is certainly a much more acceptable solution, as the taxpayer will be able to call and talk to an elected representative (not a politician, as Fred Brecht says). The bureaucracy of one tier government will not be as accessible as we have been accustomed to, as they will

have a full time job; not just the Reeve, but all members of the new council. It was interesting to hear Councillor Guy Scott from the newly amalgamated Townships of Galway-Cavendish and Harvey state that after only two years, all three townships are now receiving a much better level of service than was the case prior to restructuring.

Personally I hope that the County and Townships representatives will accept the Commissioner's decision with a positive attitude and attempt to make it work for the betterment of all Victoria County taxpayers. Spending possibly hundreds of thousands of dollars on a long drawn out legal battle will leave only the lawyers as the big winners.

John Huke
Somerville Township

Smoke detectors save lives

Editor:

The recent debate about what type of smoke alarm you should have in your home greatly disturbs me. Not because I believe that one technology is better than the other—in fact, experience has shown that both ionization and photoelectric smoke alarms are effective at detecting fires in the home.

My concern is that people may believe the only thing they need to be safe from fire is a smoke alarm. The truth is, if you and your family are going to survive a fire, you may need much more than that.

Most fatal fires occur at night, when people are asleep. Often these are very slow, smouldering fires, which are the most difficult to detect. Photoelectric alarms may respond slightly faster to this type of fire, however, when these smouldering fires reach the flaming stage, both alarms will respond effectively. Ionization type smoke alarms may respond faster to hot, flaming fires, such as those that can occur in the kitchen. Regardless of the type, the more smoke alarms

you have, the earlier a fire may be detected.

Fire and smoke can spread at an incredible rate, so by the time the alarm sounds, a substantial amount of smoke may already be filling your home. You may only have a very short time to escape so you must be prepared to act immediately. Developing a home escape plan and practicing it with your family can greatly improve your chances of surviving.

Of course, the best way to protect yourself from fire is to prevent one from occurring in the first place. Pay close attention when cooking or smoking and never leave open flame, such as fireplaces or candles, unattended.

Smoke alarms are definitely an essential component of fire safety, but they are only part of the equation. A well-rehearsed home escape plan and good, fire-safe behaviours will go far to protect you and your family.

Bernard A. Moyle
Fire Marshal of Ontario



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Sports

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an athlete,
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Josh Dennis makes Tier 2 Junior A All-Star team

Former Haliburton resident Josh Dennis has been chosen for the Junior A All-Star team for 1999-2000. The defenceman with the Bancroft Hawks Tier 2 Junior A Hockey Club moved with his family to London,

Novice A Monarchs end regular season with exciting game

The OMHA Novice Monarchs ended their regular season with their most exciting game. The Millbrook team came to Minden to take on the Monarchs on Saturday, January 8.

The Millbrook boys made it clear from the start that they didn't come to Minden to lose. Before the Monarchs could get their game plan sorted out, Millbrook was up 2-0.

With less than a minute and a half left in the first period, Colin Callaghan's shot found an open corner and Millbrook's lead was cut in half. Davis Reynolds and Jason Chapman assisted.

Three and a half minutes into the second period, Matt Eno flipped a shot into the top corner to knot the game at 2-2. Callaghan and Brady Hicks set up the tying goal.

Millbrook jumped ahead 3-2 with 3:19 remaining in the second frame, but 49 seconds later, Eno scored again to tie the game at 3-3 going into the third. John Murray and Reynolds assisted.

Less than a minute into the third, Millbrook's centreman scored to give the visitors the lead once again. That lead lasted for more than four minutes, until Callaghan found the mark to even the score at 4-4 with 5:03 left in the game. Todd Simms and Derek Carpenter set up the equalizer.

With a minute and a half to go in the game, Minden got control of the puck. Dean Hutchison moved the puck up the boards to Jared Mills, who fed it on to Hicks. Hicks outskated the opposition defencemen and with 1:24 showing on the clock, beat the Millbrook goalie to put the Monarchs in front 5-4. Minden managed to keep the opposition at bay for the remainder of the game to earn the 5-4 win.

Ontario when his parents retired recently. He is billeted in Bancroft for the hockey season.

This is his second year with the Bancroft team. In 31 games this season, Dennis has scored seven goals and assisted on 15 more for 22 points. He has been assessed 14 minutes in penalties.

This is the Hawks' second season in the league. The team record is 14 wins, 19 losses and two ties, which puts the Hawks in a tie for sixth place in the standings.

As well as playing through the ranks in Haliburton, Dennis also played for the Haliburton Highlands Secondary School hockey team.

Bancroft Hawks coach Roy Reid describes Dennis as, "a solid, steady defenceman who moves the puck well and stops the opposition at the blue line. He is a team leader who continues to improve."

Dennis played solid hockey during the all-star game, picking up an assist. His team won the game by a 12-11 score. The game was played January 12 in North York.

A total of 16 defencemen were chosen for the two all-star teams. Dennis was one of only four from the Eastern Division.

The annual All-Star game is a showcase of talent from the 39 teams in Tier 2 Junior A hockey.



IN ACTION: Josh Dennis is seen here with the puck and inset. He was one of four defencemen to represent his Tier 2 Junior A division on the All-Star team. Dennis is a former Haliburton resident, who played with Huskies teams as well as the Haliburton Highlands Secondary School hockey team.

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Whithey wins

Youth bowlers aged four to 18 held their annual 3-6-9 Tournament at County Bowling Centre just before the Christmas break. This was a pins-over-average tournament, with a twist. Each bowler received a free strike in the third, sixth and ninth frames for three games.

Third place went to first-year bowler Darrin Brown with a plus 207.

Matt Reinwald, who is a five-year veteran with the YBC, came in second with a plus 209.

This year's winner was also a first-year bowler in the Bantam division — Kandice Whithey, who rolled 210 over her average.

This was a very close race. Congratulations to Kandice and honourable mention to Robert Cox, who bowled plus 203 in the tournament.



YBC 3-6-9 CHAMP: Kandice Whithey is seen here with her trophy as winner of the YBC 3-6-9 tournament.

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Monarchs blank Fenelon Flyers 12-0

Last Friday night the OMHA Atoms hosted the Fenelon Flyers. However, on this night, Minden was the team that was flying and the Monarchs cruised to a 12-0 victory.

Zac Joanu lead the Minden charge with five goals and two assists. Linemate Aaron Keaney scored a natural hat trick and notched five helpers. Kody Smith chipped in a pair, and singles went to Sherri Walker and Travis Walker.

Mike Lennox and David Muir recorded their fourth collective shut out of the season.

The OMHA Atoms have now finished their regular season with a solid 18-5-2 record, and they should finish among the top three teams in their loop.

With the playoffs looming, these Monarchs know they can match up with any team. However, they also know the competition is going to be strong and to progress past the first round they will have to play their best hockey.

It should be an exciting playoff season.

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Catch the Drift

We are just as disappointed as the community that the annual Sled Dog Derby is cancelled this year. So, to help keep the spirit of the derby alive, the organizers invite volunteers, helpers, spectators, mushers and supporters to an evening of fun, dancing and reminiscing.

Bring your great sled dog derby spirit, wear your sled dog derby regalia and be prepared to have a ball!

Friends of the Minden Sled Dog Derby
are invited to the
Minden Community Centre
January 22, 8 p.m. - 1 a.m.
for a mid-winter

MUSHER'S Ball

All Souvenirs on sale!
Two items for the price of one
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Admission \$5.00 per person to be donated to charity

Cash Bar • Buffet • Dancing • Music by "The Dogs"

Five gets you food and fun at the Minden Curling Club

by Sandy Cole

The Minden Curling Club is hosting a fun night/open house on Saturday, January 22. This is a fun and easy way to experience Minden's favourite winter pastime and is open to all members, friends, family and community curlers and wannabe curlers. If you have ever mulled over the thought of curling in



your mind, now is your chance to check it out. We'll set you up with curling equipment, set up the teams and provide the chili. All you have to do is sign up, show up and have fun!

If you are a non-curler, be at the club before 6:30 and we will give you basic instructions from 6:30 to 7:30. At 7:30, the curling will begin, followed by the chili, which will be served in the lounge. The bar will be open for refreshments.

Sign up, put your name on the sheet by the bar or call Gail Kivela at 286-3300 or Pat Woodcroft at 286-2567 by Wednesday, January 20.

Congratulations to all the Bantam and Junior mixed teams that participated in the zone playoffs on January 8 and 9. What a great bunch of curlers were on hand to strut their stuff, showing off their high calibre of curling skills!

Best wishes to the teams that advanced to the regionals. Although our Minden teams did not move on, they did do us proud, showing how far they have come in such a short time. Three cheers go out to Bantams Ryan Cole, Amanda Alain, Matthew Reinwald and Valerie Muise as well as Juniors Jason Scott, Jennifer Minto, Trevor Cole and Tracy Draker.

As always, these events would not be possible if not for the tireless volunteers who work so hard to put these things together and get all the jobs done. Special thanks to Carol Gillespie, (nee Puffer) and

Gord Wood for their coaching and support of our junior curlers.

Remember, the second schedule starts January 17 with one draw for Ladies on Monday, Men's or Wednesday and Mixed on Friday, with an 8 p.m. start. Double draws for Mixed are Thursday at 7 and 9 p.m. Come on out and cheer them on.

Playoff results

Tuesday Night Men's

Dwight Thomas over Bill Roodenburg

Ross Wray over Rob Eaton

For the finals, Dwight Thomas over Ross Wray

Thursday Night Mixed

First round

Mike Whitmarsh over Paul Prentice

Gord Wood over Dana Kinsman

Pat Woodcroft over Melanie Vigrass

Ross Davies over Howard Scott

Second round

Gord Wood over Mike Whitmarsh

Ross Davies over Pat Woodcroft

Finals

Gord Wood over Ross Davies

Friday Night Mixed

Mike Whitmarsh with a bye for first place

Bill Roodenburg over Lawrence Loughheed (forfeit)

Finals

Mike Whitmarsh over Bill Roodenburg

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Major Tykes earn two wins and a tie in first three games of 2000

- submitted -

The Minden Monarchs Major Tykes traveled to Manvers for their first hockey game of the millennium on Sunday, January 2.

The host team applied great pressure in the first period but was stifled by the strong goal tending of Alex Cray. The defensive unit of Michael Callaghan, Katie Findeis, Zachary Harrison and Jeffrey Balcombe moved the puck well out of the Minden end.

Minden opened the scoring when Brett Hicks converted a pass from Ashton Haley to beat the Manvers goalie. The end-to-end action saw numerous chances for both teams to score. Greg Clements' hard shot from the top of the faceoff circle just missed the far side. Forward Alex Treharne played a strong back-checking game, assisting the defense on many occasions. Tanner Cowan moved the puck well up the ice and dug hard in the corners, passing the puck out for some good scoring opportunities.

Late in the second period, JJ Kerr took the puck behind the Manvers net and executed a fine wrap-around to give Minden a 2-0 lead.

With time running out, the Manvers coach pulled his goalie, but the determined Minden crew managed to ward off the attack to start off the new millennium with a 2-0 shutout over Manvers.

Haliburton 2, Minden 2

Fans on both sides were not disappointed when the Monarchs played host to the Haliburton Huskies on Sunday, January 8. Both sides moved the puck well, creating several scoring chances.

Michael Callaghan opened the scoring for Minden, with Katie Findeis assisting.

Haliburton replied with a goal by Chris Judge and then the Huskies took the lead when Drew Paul got one by Alex Cray.

Callaghan's second goal of the game evened the score and it ended in a 2-2 tie.

Minden 6, Woodville 3

The Minden Major Tykes kept their undefeated streak alive when they went to Woodville on January 8. The Monarchs doubled the host team 6-3 to remain unbeaten in this century with a pair of wins and one tie.

Minden got on the scoreboard early in the first period. Haley worked the puck out of the corner, feeding a pass out to Callaghan, who made no mistake. His shot beat the Woodville goalie and the Monarchs enjoyed a 1-0 lead.

The celebrations were short-lived. Woodville got back on even terms just 30 seconds later.

A minute after that, Callaghan picked up the puck and skated in alone, scoring on the breakaway. Brett Hicks and Jeff Balcombe picked up assists.

Minden started the second period on the right track when Hicks banged one past the Woodville netminder. Haley and Peter Markowski got the helpers. One minute later, Cowan, streaking in on the net, picked up a pass from Zachary Harrison and tucked it into the net.

Woodville notched two in a row, closing the gap to 4-3, but that's as close as the home team would get.

Hicks fired his second goal of the game to give the Monarchs a two-goal spread, with assists going to Haley and Balcombe. Callaghan, who has been on fire the last few games, rounded out the scoring to earn the hat trick. Haley assisted.

It takes more than scoring punch to win games. Strong defense, goal tending and positional play are all important to a team's success. Alex Cray stopped numerous breakaways to keep Minden in the game. Defensemen JJ Kerr, Greg Clements Dylan Reynolds and Zach Harrison stopped the Woodville rush and moved the puck out of the Monarchs' end. Alex Treharne, Brady Kent and Katie Findeis played good positional hockey. All of which contributed to the 6-3 win.

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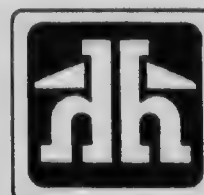
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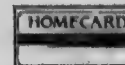
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Cathy Snell rolls 370

Legion 636 Mixed League (January 10)

High average: Fred Knight 183; Leitha Kuchalema 170
High single: Maurice Winterflood 257; Leitha Kuchalema 206
High single (handicap): Maurice Winterflood 311; Leitha Kuchalema/Sheila Burke 250
High triple: Maurice Winterflood 565; Leitha Kuchalema 498
High triple (handicap): Maurice Winterflood 727; Ann Oakley 658

Monday Night Mixed League

High average: Scott Moore 238; Michelle Moore 207
High single: Al Clement 234; Michelle Moore 201
High single (POA): Derrick Moore +60; Erin Moore +36
High triple: Scott Moore 806; Teresa Clement 486
High triple (POA): Al Clement +63; Cindy Hogg +15

Tuesday Afternoon Seniors' League (January 11)

High average: Bob Bullen 190; Theresa Fox 167
High single: Ron Earle 165; Ruth Platt 229
High single (handicap): Dalton Platt 223; Ruth Platt 291
High triple: Bob Bullen 540; Ruth Platt 491
High triple (handicap): Dalton Platt 638; Ruth Platt 677

Tuesday Night Mixed League (December 14)

High average: Walt Stegmaier 230; Cathy Snell 237
High single: Walt Stegmaier 326; Cathy Snell 307
High single (handicap): Al Eskelin 323; Sharon Kernohan 276
High triple: Walt Stegmaier 707; Cathy Snell 902
High triple (handicap): Al Eskelin 791; Vera Wahlroth 660

Tuesday Night Mixed League (January 4)

High average: Walt Stegmaier 228; Cathy Snell 240
High single: Norm Goldenberg

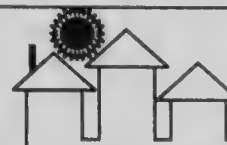
288; Cathy Snell 370
High single (handicap): Gord Darby 275; Joanne Robinson 244
High triple: Norm Goldenberg 742; Cathy Snell 856
High triple (handicap): Len Punt Sr. 771; Joanne Robinson 685

Thursday Afternoon Seniors' League

High average: Ray Lymer 197; Helen Dentinger 168
High single: Maurice Boyd 256; Mary McCutcheon 202
High single (handicap): Maurice Boyd 292; Mary McCutcheon 265
High triple: Addie Dykstra 617; Grace Chapman 496
High triple (handicap): Maurice Boyd 716; Mary McCutcheon 675

Thursday Night Mixed League (December 22)

High average: Walt Stegmaier 228; Michelle Moore 215
High single: Carl Hie 255; Joan Rivard 248
High single (handicap): Carl Hie 294; Joan Rivard 285
High triple: Kirk Harrison 643; Joan Rivard 674
High triple (handicap): Kirk Harrison 787; Joan Rivard 785



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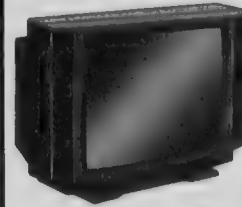
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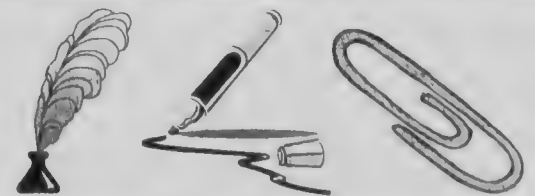
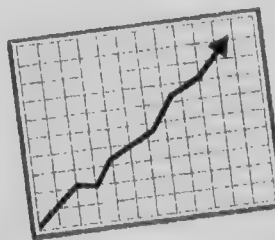
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Warkworth tournament**Minden OMHA Atoms win B Championship**

The OMHA Atoms journeyed down to lovely Warkworth (home of the famous penitentiary!) to participate in an eight-team tournament on Saturday, January 7.

Minden opened up against Stirling and posted a convincing 6-1 victory. Zac Joanu was again on fire, posting another hat trick. Aaron Keaney scored a pair and Travis Walker rounded out the scoring with a single.

Minden then lost its second game 5-3 to Omcemee. This was the highest goals-against the OMHA Atoms suffered this year and it was just a game where not a single break

went Minden's way. Keaney scored a pair and Sherri Walker added a single in a losing cause.

The Monarchs exacted a little bit of moral revenge in the B Championship game when they ploughed through Millbrook by a convincing 6-0 margin.

Matt Clements opened the scoring with his first goal of the season, connecting with a nice wrist shot from the point. Adam Googh followed up with a marker of his own. Other Minden goals went to Sherri Walker, Joanu and Travis Walker had a pair. Gavin Hicks, Justin McKelvey and Jon Petch defended well to keep Millbrook off the scoreboard.

Bailey Cole rolls 91 single in Smurf division

Youth Bowling Council

Smurf

High average: Bailey Cole 67
High single: Bailey Cole 91
High double: Bailey Cole 164

Pee wee

High average: Eric Whitty 100;
Hillary Anderson 89
High single: Eric Whitty 120;
Karen Prozak 100
High double: Eric Whitty 224;
Karen Prozak 178

Bantam

High average: Jake Walker 115; Lesley Cox 471
Brandy Cole 116
High single: Kurran Develon 116; McKelvey 630; Corinne Hogg 574
Kandice Whithey 125
High triple: Jake Walker 392; Sarah Prozak 327

Junior

High average: Brad Mickle 176; Lesley Cox 142
High single: Darrin Brown 197; Lesley Cox 162
High single (handicap): Justin McKelvey 231; Corinne Hogg 209
High triple: Brad Mickle 459; Kelly Berry 553

High triple (handicap): Justin McKelvey 630; Corinne Hogg 574

Senior

High average: Matt Reinwald 203; Kelly Berry 167
High single: Matt Hogg 216; Kelly Berry 169
High single (handicap): Dennis Cox 255; Kelly Berry 195
High triple: Trevor Clement 616; Kelly Berry 475
High triple (handicap): Dennis Cox 688; Kelly Berry 553

Carnarvon Bowling**Bob Bullen rolls 271**

Wednesday Afternoon League

High average: Ken Thompson 236; Marie Thompson 190
High single: Bob Bullen 271; Marie Thompson 247
High single (handicap): Bob Bullen 308; Jean Pugh 293
High triple: Syd Lockhart 637; Marie Thompson 672
High triple (handicap): Syd Lockhart 793; Marie Thompson 762



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**THE CORPORATION OF
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OF ANSON, HINDON AND
MINDEN
NOTICE
(File No. SRA-98-12)**

IN THE MATTER OF the Municipal Act; and
IN THE MATTER OF a proposed by-law of the Corporation of the Townships of Anson, Hindon and Minden to stop up, close and convey to the adjoining landowner, a portion of the original allowance for road, in front of Part of Lot 28, Concession 7, Township of Minden, County of Haliburton.

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN pursuant to Section 300(1)(a) of the Municipal Act, R.S.O. 1990, as amended, that the Council of the Corporation of the Townships of Anson, Hindon and Minden proposes to consider, and if deemed advisable, to pass at its regular meeting to be held in the Municipal Council Chambers on Milne Street, Minden, Ontario, on February 10th, 2000 at the hour of 10:00 a.m., a by-law to stop up, close and convey those parcels of land more particularly described as follows:-

A portion of the original allowance for road, along the shore of Kashagawigamog Lake, being Part of Lot 28, Concession 7, designated as Part 1 on Reference Plan No. 19R-6733.

The plan of survey is available for inspection in the Municipal Office, at Minden, Ontario during regular office hours.

AND FURTHER TAKE NOTICE that before passing the said by-law at the meeting to be held at the time and place above-mentioned, the Council shall then and there, hear in person or by his or her counsel, solicitor or agent, any person who claims that his or her land will be prejudicially affected by the said by-law and who applies to be heard.

DATED AT THE Township of Minden, this 20th day of December, 1999.

Tammy McKelvey, A.M.C.T.,
Clerk-Treasurer,
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Minden, Ontario. KOM 2K0



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**THE CORPORATION OF
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MINDEN**

NOTICE

(File No. SRA-99-04)

IN THE MATTER OF the Municipal Act; and
IN THE MATTER OF a proposed by-law of the Corporation of the Townships of Anson, Hindon and Minden to stop up, close and convey to the adjoining landowner, a portion of the original allowance for road, in front of Part of Lot 10, Concession 5, Township of Minden, County of Haliburton.

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN pursuant to Section 300(1)(a) of the Municipal Act, R.S.O. 1990, as amended, that the Council of the Corporation of the Townships of Anson, Hindon and Minden proposes to consider, and if deemed advisable, to pass at its regular meeting to be held in the Municipal Council Chambers on Milne Street, Minden, Ontario, on February 10th, 2000 at the hour of 10:00 a.m., a by-law to stop up, close and convey those parcels of land more particularly described as follows:-

A portion of the original allowance for road, along the shore of Horseshoe Lake, being Part of Lot 10, Concession 5, designated as Part 2 on Reference Plan No. 19R-6763.

The plan of survey is available for inspection in the Municipal Office, at Minden, Ontario during regular office hours.

AND FURTHER TAKE NOTICE that before passing the said by-law at the meeting to be held at the time and place above-mentioned, the Council shall then and there, hear in person or by his or her counsel, solicitor or agent, any person who claims that his or her land will be prejudicially affected by the said by-law and who applies to be heard.

DATED AT THE Township of Minden, this 6th day of January, 2000.

Tammy McKelvey, A.M.C.T.,
Clerk-Treasurer,
P.O. Box 359, 7 Milne Street,
Minden, Ontario. KOM 2K0

January is a quieter month

A good day to everyone. It's hard to believe that we are halfway through January already. We wonder if it is true that as you get older, time passes more quickly. We're sure that many of you out there will agree with us. It's time, once again, to fill you in on the happenings here at our home.

The pace has definitely slowed down now that the busy season is behind us, but that's OK as we're sure many of you welcome it. We have had some lovely times the last few days. Our Tea Party last week was much enjoyed with our lovely hosts, The Martha Group. We were served such a delicious array of treats and we thank them for coming.

The next morning a few of us attended the Diners Club meeting. We spent some time choosing our next meal of the month, and also set our menu for our upcoming Valentine's Dinner. We have chosen chicken cordon bleu along with baked potato and vegetables. We will also have our choice of wine or punch to enjoy with our dinner and pie for dessert. Sounds good, doesn't it?

That afternoon the Pickards kept us well entertained at our Happy Hour. We listened to some great music and joined in with some real oldies. Our thanks to the Pickards for a wonderful time.

On Saturday we welcomed Gord Kennedy, a lovely pianist and we do enjoy his music. He plays continuously with one song after another. Many thanks Gord. It was good to have Reverend Burgess here on Sunday for his

Senior League

by the Roving Reporters

visitations, and our Sunday Chapel

Service was led by Barbara Trocewicz. There were a few visitors in and it always warms our hearts to see faces light up with a smile for a special visitor. We do look forward to having people come in for a visit.

At our Residents' Council meeting on Monday, January 10, we discussed in detail our plans for our Valentine's Dinner, we also talked about upcoming activities. The following morning Pastor Dan Millard was here for our Chapel Service, during which time we remembered Rod Henderson.

The Norland Hillbillies were here with us once again for our Pub Night. We sure had lots of fun and we thank them for coming and entertaining us so well. Our Tea Party today is hosted by the Allsaw Pentecostal Church. We are looking forward to having them here.

It seems we have run out of news for now. We don't have any birthday celebrants until February so take care of yourself and we will talk with you again. Keep smiling!

First Information Centre

Bancroft-Minden Forest 2001-2021 Forest Management Plan

The Ministry of Natural Resources (MNR), the Bancroft Minden Forest Company (BMFC) and Local Citizens Advisory Committee invite you to attend a public information centre to discuss the 2001 to 2021 forest management plan for the Bancroft Minden Forest.

The forest management plan will outline the long-term strategic direction for the management of the forest, and the details of harvest, renewal and tending operations and access road locations for the first five-year term, 2001 to 2006.

The purpose of the information centre is to provide the public with an opportunity to review and comment on the analysis of forest management alternatives. Topics to be discussed at the information centre, include the preliminary preferred management alternative for the plan, and optional areas for harvest operations for the first five-year term of the plan.

Information from existing commercial and non-commercial users of the Bancroft Minden Forest (eg. tourism industry, hikers, trappers) is requested for the plan's socio-economic background. If you would like to contribute to this section, please phone Mike Turner, MNR Forester, at (705) 286-5216.

The information centre will be held at the following time(s) and location(s):

Saturday, February 19, 2000

Ministry of Natural Resources
Bancroft District Office
106 Monck Street
Bancroft, Ontario
12:00 noon to 6:00 p.m.

Sunday, February 20, 2000

Royal Canadian Legion
Haliburton, Ontario
12:00 noon to 6:00 p.m.

The information centre will allow the public to contribute any information that may be of importance in the decision-making process for the forest management plan. Should you be unable to attend the information centre(s), or wish to contribute information after the information centre(s) has been completed, you can review and comment on the displayed material by arranging an appointment (including an appointment during non-business hours) with the ministry's Management Forester at (613) 332-3940 ext. 235.

A map which summarizes optional areas for harvest operations may be obtained from the office of Bancroft Minden Forest Company or the ministry's Bancroft District Office (see addresses below).

Comments concerning this part of the forest management plan must be received by April 20, 2000.

In addition to this information centre, formal public involvement opportunities are tentatively scheduled as follows:

Second Public Information Centre

Public Review of the Draft Forest Management Plan

Public Inspection of the MNR-approved Forest Management Plan

May 2000

October 2000

February/March 2001

The planning team for the forest management plan consists of the following people:

Jon Orpana, Plan Author, BMFC
Brian Vermeersch, Area Supervisor, MNR Bancroft
Kathy Irwin, Biologist, MNR Bancroft
Mike Turner, R.P.F., Forester, MNR Minden
Bruce Fleck, Forester, MNR Bancroft
Peter Waring, Area Supervisor, MNR Minden
Dana Kinsman, Biologist, MNR Minden

There is an opportunity at any time during the forest management planning process for interested persons to seek resolution of issues with the plan author. If there is still dissatisfaction with the results of issue resolution with the plan author, the ministry's District Manager and/or the ministry's Regional Director will attempt to resolve the issue.

There is also an opportunity at any time during the forest management planning process for interested persons to make a request to the Minister of the Environment that specific forest management activities require an individual environmental assessment under the *Environmental Assessment Act*.

The Ministry of Natural Resources is collecting comments and information regarding this forest management plan under the authority of the *Crown Forest Sustainability Act* to assist in making decisions and determining further public consultation needs. Comments and opinions will be kept on file for use during the operating term of the forest management plan, and may be included in study documentation which is made available for public review.

Under the *Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act (1987)*, personal information will remain confidential unless prior consent is obtained. However, this information may be used by the Ministry of Natural Resources as public input on other resource management surveys and projects. For further information regarding this Act, please contact Charmaine Devitt at (613) 332-3940, ext. 228.

If you have any issues or concerns, or if you would like to receive additional background information, please contact the ministry's Management Forester, at (613) 332-3940, ext. 235. If you would like to be added to the mailing list for the duration of the planning process, please contact Susan Kuliack at (613) 332-3940, ext. 214.

For further information on the forest management planning process, information relating to the preparation of this forest management plan, or background information about the Bancroft Minden Forest, please contact any of the following individuals during normal office hours:

Bruce Fleck, R.P.F.
Management Forester
Min. of Natural Resources
Hwy. 28 S
P.O. Box 500
Bancroft ON K0L 1C0
Tel.: (613) 332-3940, ext. 235

Jon Orpana, R.P.F.
Company Forester
Bancroft Minden Forest Company
Birds Creek Plaza
R.R. #2
Bancroft ON K0L 1C0
Tel.: (613) 332-6890

Mike Turner, R.P.F.
Area Forester
Min. of Natural Resources
Hwy. 35 By-Pass
P.O. Box 820
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You are encouraged to get involved early in the planning process!



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Around the County Town

by Nora Snyder (call 286-4450; email <mindenhouse@aibn.com>)

Still no snow!!

A little difficult to get winter sports rolling under the circumstances. I drove up Dorset way last week and they have more of the white stuff and there were snowmobiles out and about and more fishing huts out on the lakes. But still it's nothing like other years.

Does anyone remember another winter like this one with the snow staying away so long? I've been looking forward to the ice car racers coming back but there are no ice tracks yet for their sport!!

Besides understanding the fact that so many of you enjoy your winter activities, I am just fine with the way it is, as many of you must know about me by now!!

To add to this green winter phenomenon, did you feel the earthquake? It turns out I did, but I didn't know what it was as it was happening. Very early, at 6:30 a.m. that morning, my cat was demanding to be put out. I was staggering to the door, having been so rudely awakened from my sleep, when I heard rattling sounds and it felt like someone was forcefully trying to open my back door or perhaps the cat had knocked something over, but he was at my feet. I was too drowsy to think much about it, the noises stopped, and I fell back into bed and welcome sleep.

Later in the day I heard about the earthquake centred around North Bay and felt all the way to Toronto and beyond, but they didn't say when it had happened. The news report triggered the memory of the early morning noises though, and finally a friend confirmed it had happened at 6:30 a.m. It was with quite a shock I realized that we had experienced it.

It is believed that animals are very sensitive to upcoming weather and events such as earthquakes. I wonder if Bob, my cat, was aware before it happened. He doesn't usually want out that early in the winter, but he was very insistent that day.

The annual Haliburton County Fair Dinner, hosted by the Minden Agriculture Society will be held on Saturday, January 29 at Oldhams Inn at Moore Falls. Meet and Greet will begin at 6:00 p.m. with dinner following at 7:00 p.m. Tickets are \$15 and everyone is welcome. For tickets and more information please call Mary Minto at 286-2270 or 457-2880.

It is also time to announce the first meeting of the year for the Women's Institute. It will be held on January 19 at 1:30 p.m. in the common room at the Library/Cultural Centre. The Tweedsmuir Books will be on display at this meeting so that should appeal to everyone interested in our history. If these books tweak your interest, you are invited to come out and bring a friend!!

I hope everyone is healthy now, with the flu behind you, or you still have been lucky enough not to have contracted it!! Maybe with the hustle and bustle over and with us more settled into our winter routine or if you are getting ready for a trip to a warmer, sunnier clime, health will return to all members of our county!!

SCORING NEWS

The Friendship Club at St. Paul's is back in full swing with Katie in the helm, just back from a wonderful trip out to Victoria over the holidays, visiting family. She is glad to be home, I am sure, doing all the many things she does with great gusto, one of which is getting in the Euchre results for the club each week and any other news from their group. Last Monday they held a surprise birthday for Jesse Barlow and Fern Donnelly. With great difficulty at keeping it secret, the cake was made by Betty Barlow for the two of them without Jesse knowing about it. Then to add to the difficulty, Betty was unfortunately sick on Monday and a plan had to be organized for someone to pick up the cake to take to the club. It was all accomplished without a hitch and the two birthday people were properly surprised!! Before the party Gladys Wruth won lone hands, Ellen Holden was high woman and on his birthday, Jesse Barlow was high man!!

Up at Club 35 last Monday evening, Verna Sawyer won the 50/50 draw and lone hands and the baloney!! The other winners of the night were Marilyn Teljeur and Murray Daniels with the high scores and Barbara Gamble and Harry Randell with the low scores. It was a night with special awards also, those going to Barbara Gamble and Fred Gregory.

At the Minden Legion on Wednesday, January 5, playing Euchre, Vi

Edgson and Maxine Cross won most lone hands. Vivian Anderson and Tom Orr won the high scores and Flo Roussel and Jim Bradbury won the lows. Marcel Roussel and Verna McDonald won the other prizes.

Then on Tuesday, January 11 at the Legion, playing Senior's Bid Euchre, Marcel Roussel, Dorothy McElwain, Georgina Parkes and Sharon Evans were the high scorers. Elva Paisley found the hidden score. There was only one moonshot and it was won by Pat Roussel.

At Duplicate Bridge played at Home Support in Haliburton on Thursday, January 6, they played Swiss Pairs. Nick Lehoczy, Pat Hannah, Maria Lehoczy and Ruth Kelly were the winners.

Last Tuesday afternoon, playing Contract Bridge at Stanhope, two small slams were bid and made, both by Muriel McIntosh, one with Helen Rice as her partner, the other with Ross Fletcher. The three top scorers were: Ross Fletcher, third with 4290; Helen Rice, second with 4450; and first, Muriel McIntosh with 6520. Another special award was introduced that afternoon, the U2000!! The "proud" winners were Diane Boll, Betty Roszell and Bill Milford!!

Wednesday afternoon, Duplicate Bridge at Parklane, played on January 12, saw Ross Fletcher and Kelly Metcalf in first place with 63%. Second were Ross Davies and Stella McMillan with 56%. In third place were Maria Lehoczy and Judy Neimann with 55%.

In Lochlin last Tuesday evening, (I have to apologize for identifying Lochlin instead of Gelert the week before, sorry!!), Harold Harvie was men's high and Joyce Schellenberg was women's high. Chris Hill was men's low and May Hicks was women's low, Don Currie won lone hands and Audrey Vick won the 50/50 draw. I will try harder to keep the alternate weeks straight from now on!!

The final scores of the week come from Stanhope where they play Bid Euchre on Wednesday evenings. On January 12, two moonshots were won by Neil Griffin and Jean Dutka. The high scores were won by: Ken Wallace with 227; Ev Griffin, 244; Helen Lee 248; Garth Windsor, 261; and Alf Whyman with the top score of 267. This Wednesday there will be the Pot Luck dinner first at 6:00 p.m., with cards to follow at 7:00 p.m.

Good luck to all of you this week in your games. Have fun at the tables!! See you all here next week!!

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Tammy & Robert Crowe.
P.S. I would like to say thanks honey, I love you.

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Thank you to Ian Fleming, a long time friend, for the comforting words and his message at Harry's funeral. Thank you to Rev. Peter Walford-Davis, Gordon Monk Funeral Home, Pallbearers and our dear friend Fraser for the eulogy. Thank you to my girls who came to take care of me during my illness. God Bless you all. If love could have saved Harry, he would not have died.

Jean Cowen.

Sincere thanks to all our wonderful customers for their goodies, presents and good wishes over the Holiday Season.

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Many thanks to my Minden friends for their flowers, cards and phone calls while I was in the Belleville General Hospital and at home.
Doris Grant.

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AT REST

WALLACE
Donna
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At age 66. Died Sunday, January 9, 2000 at her home with her family at her side. Predeceased by her husband Malcolm. Loving mother to Robert and his wife Rachel of Sudbury, Mass., John Wallace of Toronto, Ontario, Scott and his wife Lynn of Newbury, New Hampshire, Lisa Wallace of Juneau, Alaska, Chris and his wife Christy of Ypsilanti, Michigan. Dear grandmother to Nicole, Aletta, Keira, Kyle and William. Friends called at the Anderson Funeral Home, 895 Ouellette Avenue, Windsor on Tuesday from 7-9 p.m. and Wednesday from 2-5 and 7-9 p.m. Funeral Services were held Thursday, January 13, 2000 at 10 a.m. from the H.S. Anderson Memorial Chapel, Rev. Craig Rumble officiating. Interment Victoria Memorial Gardens. Memorial tributes to the Hospice of Windsor would be appreciated by the family.

IN MEMORIAM

TRUMBULL - In loving memory of a dear Grandson, son and brother, Tony Trumbull, who passed away January 5, 1992. *There will always be a heartache And often a silent tear. But always precious memories Of the days that you were here. We hold you close within our hearts And there you will always remain, To walk with us through all our lives Until we meet again. Forever loved and sadly missed. Grandma Audrey, Dad Ray and brothers Bradley and Clinton.*

JOHNSTON, Alvin, Carl - Who left us suddenly January 16, 1964 in his 8th year. *Dear is the grave where our darling is laid, Sweet are his memories that will never fade, The loss, the shock, so severe, To part with little Alvin whom We loved so dear, His little soul, so pure and sweet Blossoms at our Saviour's feet. You are deeply loved honey and sadly missed Mom, Brother and Sisters.*

IN MEMORIAM

In loving Memory of:
Hazel Irvine - January 21, 1997
Genevieve Cooper - December 30, 1991
Cleveland Stamp - March 23, 1993
Leon Stamp - October 12, 1973
In the churchyard, softly sleeping, Where the flowers gently wave, Lie the ones we loved so dearly, Whom we tried, but could not save, God is good, He gives us strength, 'Tis He and He alone who knows Our loneliness and loss. Sadly missed and never forgotten, Glen & Esther, Brenda & Frank Shirley & Bob Dennis.

IRVINE, Hazel - January 21, 1997.
We miss you in so many ways, We miss the things you used to say, And when old times we do recall, It's then we miss you most of all. Jack & Family.

IN MEMORIAM

IRVINE, Hazel - In memory of Hazel Irvine who passed away January 21, 1997.
Her smiling ways and pleasant face Are a pleasure to recall, She had a kindly word for each And died beloved by all. Some day we hope to meet her Some day, we know not when, To clasp her hand in the better land Never to part again. Always remembered, Barb, Craig, Kristen and Adam Wood.

ANDERSON-HEWITT - In loving memory of my husband Wayne who left us January 19, 1995 and my brother Sterling, January 19, 1974.
Past their suffering Past their pain, Cease to weep For tears are all in vain. Their helpful ways and smiling faces Are a pleasure to recall, Still loved, still missed Still remembered by all. Elaine, Sherry, Larry & Families.

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